

**EDMUND'S PSYCHOLOGICAL STRUGGLE
FOR SELF-REALIZATION :
A STUDY OF THE MAIN CHARACTER'S CONFLICT
IN EUGENE O'NEILL'S
*LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT***

THESIS



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ABSTRACT

James Tyrone, Edmund's father, is a famous actor, who early in his career had been considered as a potentially great Shakespearean actor. But, the play that brought him such great financial success ruined him. He married Mary Tyrone, an Irish-Catholic woman, who was very devoted to the Blessed Virgin, and never felt at home in the theater. After bearing Edmund, her youngest son, she was really sick, and the doctor prescribed dope to kill the pain. She became a dope addict, and had to be sent to a sanatorium. Jamie, the elder son, is an alcoholic, living in bar hotels, and sleeping with some fat whore. Edmund grew up admiring his brother and being introduced into a life of dissipation. He likes reading and writing, and is naturally obsessed with death and madness.

Edmund Tyrone, the central character of Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey Into Night*, undergoes the inner conflict due to the addiction of his mother, the domination of his father, and the alcoholism of his brother, which more or less has affected his personality. But, the lack of understanding, the inability and unwillingness to communicate among the Tyrone family, only makes him suffer psychological wounds. Being together with the family in a day in his life, Edmund learns about the world, about life, about others and himself. He finally accepts the truth of his mother's return to dope addiction.

Edmund Tyrone, a sensitive and perceptive youth, struggling over his problems through understanding and insight he has gained, finally recognizes himself. When a young man is discovering the bitter truths behind appearances (of the whole family), he is able to forgive and forget.